

# The MSC Monitor

Student Newspaper of Matanuska-Susitna College

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Vol. V No. 7

## Mat-Su College Professor Receives Awards

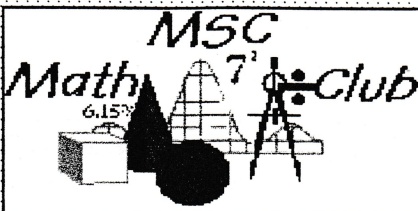
May 28, 1998 MSC Math Club News Release.

Dr. Ping-Tung Chung, Professor and Math Department Chair at Matanuska-Susitna College, was awarded the **1998 Outstanding Full Time Teaching Award** by UAA Chancellor Edward Lee Gorsuch at the 1998 Employee Awards and Chancellor's Awards for Excellence Ceremony held this past April. Dr. Chang was nominated by students attending Mat-Su College, University of Alaska Anchorage, and the MSC Math Club.

During this ceremony, Dr. Chang also received the **1998 Longevity Award** for ten years of dedicated service at the University, and in August, he received the **University of Alaska Anchorage Teaching Excellence Award** at the Fall Convocation.

Dr. Chang, the first faculty member to receive both the **Outstanding Full Time Teaching Award** and the **Teaching Excellence Award** simultaneously, is currently pursuing the organization of a Math Learning Center at Mat-Su College's Snodgrass Hall with the help and support of the MSC Math Club.

The believe there is ample space in Snodgrass Hall and argue that a Math Learning Center would be beneficial, not to only MSC Students, but to the entire population of the Mat-Su Valley by providing a place to seek help with mathematical problems, serve as a mathematical study environment, and contain a mathematical library to enhance the learning process of math□



Meetings will be held every other Friday starting September 11, 1998. Students may continue to receive information regarding math club activities from the club bulletin board, located in JKB.

From the Desk  
of  
**Joseph W. Emmons**  
**Director**  
**Matanuska-Susitna**  
**College**

On behalf of the faculty and staff, I would like to welcome you to Matanuska-Susitna College. We hope that your educational experience with us will enrich your life!

Whether you are a first time student or continuing your education at MSC, we want you to know we are here to help you reach the academic goals you have set for yourself. Because your academic success is important to us, we urge you to become aware of university policies and procedures that could affect you as a student. There are a few important dates, i.e., tuition refunds, add, drop, and withdrawal deadlines that could potentially impact your academic and/or financial status as a student.

In referring to the General Information section of the course schedule, you will find answers to many questions that may arise. Or, you may stop by the Student Services Office, FSM 102, and visit with one of our academic or financial aid advisors who would be happy to meet with you and address your concerns.

Additionally, we provide a Learning Resource Center located in the Okeson Library, where tutors are available to help you in math, writing and other subjects. We attempt to maintain a friendly, personal atmosphere for our students, where classes are small and faculty make themselves available to provide assistance.

Again, I wish you a very successful and rewarding semester and hope you will continue a path of lifelong learning with Mat-Su College!

### Important Dates to Remember This Semester

|                       |                                            |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>October 19</b>     | <i>December Grad Application Deadline</i>  |
| <b>November 3</b>     | <i>Directed/Independent Study Deadline</i> |
| <b>November 24</b>    | <i>Withdrawal Deadline</i>                 |
|                       | <i>Credit-to-Audit Deadline</i>            |
| <b>November 25-29</b> | <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>                  |
| <b>December 11</b>    | <i>Total Withdrawal Deadline</i>           |
| <b>December 26</b>    | <i>My Birthday</i>                         |



## From The Editor

If anyone is interested in formal a non-official journalism club, call me at 745-7978 or email: [pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu) or leave your name and number in the Monitor drop box located in the cafeteria.

If anyone has anything for the paper, drop it by. I need photographs, articles, comics, etc. It is your newspaper!



The next issue of  
the

**MSC Monitor**

will be distributed  
on

**November 1, 1998.**

All submissions should be  
received no later than

**November 25, 1998.**

If you submit an article, please submit a hard copy on paper with desired format and a soft copy on disk in text only format. Your disk will be returned as soon as the article is transferred to the hard drive.

## To The Editor

Letters to the editor, opinions, complaints and suggestions are always welcome by the editor. Submissions can be placed in the

Monitor drop box outside the office, mailed to the MSC Monitor, P.O. Box 2889, Palmer, AK 99645, or email to [pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu)



## Student Government

Senator Seats Available  
See the Student Government Board in the Cafeteria for more details.

### Want to send a letter to the editor? Via e-mail?

*Electronic letters to the editor may be sent to:*

#### Fairbanks Daily News Miner

E-mail: [letters@newsminer.com](mailto:letters@newsminer.com)

Internet address: <http://www.newsminer.com/pages/letters.html>

#### Anchorage Daily News

E-mail: [letters@pop.adn.com](mailto:letters@pop.adn.com)

Internet address: <http://www.adn.com/adn/contactus.html>

#### Juneau Empire

E-mail: [editor1@alaska.net](mailto:editor1@alaska.net) (Suzanne Downing)

Internet address: <http://www.juneauempire.com/>

#### Bering Strait Record - Nome

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/BSR/BSR.html>

#### Tundra Drums

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/drums/drums.html>

#### Seward Phoenix Log

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/seward/seward.html>

#### The Valdez Vanguard - Valdez

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/valdez/vanguard.html>

#### Cordova Times - Cordova

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/cordova/cordova.html>

#### The Arctic Sounder - Kotzebue

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/sounder/sounder.html>

#### Bristol Bay Times - Dillingham

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/bristol/bristol.html>

#### The Dutch Harbor Fisherman

E-mail: [aknewspr@alaska.net](mailto:aknewspr@alaska.net)

Internet address: <http://www.alaska.net:80/~aknewspr/dutch/dutch.html>

### MSC Monitor Staff

Editor: Kurt Szumiesz VA Correspondent: Rebecca Brown

The Monitor welcomes guest columnists and letters to the editor. Submissions will be printed according to space available, and must include name & phone number for verification. These can be dropped off in the Monitor office, placed in the Monitor drop box outside the office, mailed to the MSC Monitor, P.O. Box 2889, Palmer, AK 99645, or email to [pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu). The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, grammar, spelling and libel.



# LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

## FALL 1998 TUTOR SCHEDULE

### Math Center - OLB 214 (745-9706)

| Monday             | Tuesday            | Wednesday           | Thursday           | Friday            | Saturday           |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Hulbert 9:00-10:00 | Johnston 9:00-3:00 | Hulbert 9:00-10:00  | Johnston 9:00-1:00 | Borega 10:00-3:30 | Jonston 10:00-1:00 |
| Borega 10:00-12:00 | Borega 3:00-5:15   | Borega 10:00-12:00  | Borega 1:00-5:15   |                   |                    |
| Hulbert 12:00-5:00 |                    | Johnston 12:00-4:45 |                    |                   |                    |

### Writing Center - OLB 213 (745-9706)

| Monday             | Tuesday                        | Wednesday         | Thursday                       | Friday             | Saturday |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Atrops 10:00-12:00 | Boyd 10:00-12:00               | Bare 10:00-12:00  | Boyd 10:00-12:00               | Bronson 10:00-3:00 |          |
| Bruns 12:00-3:00   | Atrops 12:00-3:00              | Bruns 12:00-3:00  | Bronson 12:00-6:00             |                    |          |
| Bronson 3:00-6:00  | Schmidt 1:15-2:15<br>(Spanish) | Bronson 3:00-6:00 | Schmidt 1:15-2:15<br>(Spanish) |                    |          |

### Accounting Lab - SNOD 103 (Mondays), SNOD 106 (Wednesdays) (745-9754)

| Monday             | Tuesday | Wednesday          | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| Bradshaw 3:30-6:30 |         | Bradshaw 3:30-6:30 |          |        |          |

### Typing Lab - Snodgrass Hall (745-9754)

| Monday        | Tuesday       | Wednesday     | Thursday      | Friday        | Saturday |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| 8:30am-9:30pm | 8:30am-9:30pm | 8:30am-9:30pm | 8:30am-9:30pm | 8:30am-2:30pm |          |

# WANTED

Students of MSC to Fill Positions on the

*MSC* MONITOR

Positions include: Photographers, Guest Columnists,  
Cartoonists, Poets, and many more.

If you are interested or want more information contact

Kurt Szumiesz at 745-7978

or email: [pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu),

or fill out an application and return it to the Blue Box located outside the Monitor office.

**MAT-SU TRANSMISSIONS**  
*Foreign* **746-5710** *Domestic*  
 MILE 1 PALMER / WATLIN HIGHWAY  
 PALMER, ALASKA  
 MARCE VAPL  
 OWNER

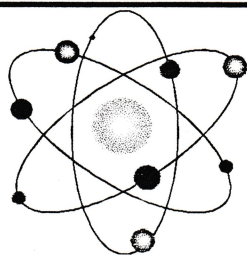


**Shots**  
 of Flavor  
 Espresso  
 &  
 Specialty Beverages

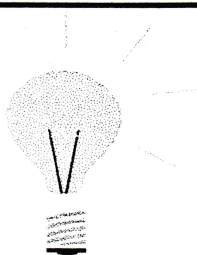
**\$2.99 Breakfast Special**  
 (M-F 6:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.)

12oz. Latte with you choice of  
 Danish, Muffin, or Bagel





## SCIENCE AND DISCOVERY



### SCIENTISTS OBSERVE TALL CHIMNEY CLOUD IN HURRICANE BONNIE

September 1, 1998 News Release available <http://www.nasa.gov>

NASA researchers have obtained compelling images from Hurricane Bonnie showing a storm cloud towering like a mountain, 59,000 feet into the sky from the eye wall. These images were obtained on Saturday, Aug. 22, 1998, by the world's first spaceborne rain radar aboard the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM), a joint U.S.-Japanese mission. Launched last fall, the TRMM spacecraft continues to provide exciting new insight into cloud systems over tropical oceans.

By comparison, the highest mountain in the world, Mt. Everest, is 29,000 feet and the average commercial jet flies at barely one-half the height of Bonnie's cloud tops.

"It looks like a skyscraper in the clouds," said Dr. Christian Kummerow, TRMM Project Scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD. "This is the first time that TRMM's precipitation radar has seen a structure of this type in a hurricane approaching the U.S. East coast."

"Clouds this tall are rarely observed in the core of Atlantic hurricanes," said Dr. Bob Simpson, former Director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami and the National Hurricane Research Project. "This huge cloud probably happened because, at the time the data was collected, Bonnie was moving very slowly. The lack of movement kept funneling warm moist air into the upper atmosphere, thus raising the entire height of the tropopause, which is normally at around 45-52,000 feet. The tropopause marks the upper limits of Earth's densest layer of atmosphere."

"The vast amount of warm, moist air being raised high into the atmosphere, and the subsequent release of latent energy as this tropical airmass condensed into rain drops, is thought to be the precursor of hurricane intensification, which was observed in Bonnie in the 24 to 48 hours after these data were collected," Simpson said.

Many scientists believe that towering cloud structures, such as the one observed by TRMM, are probably a precursor to hurricane intensification. This was the situation with Hurricane Bonnie, whose central pressure dropped from 977 millibars to 957 millibars in the subsequent 24 hours. Lower air pressure is associated with higher wind speeds and overall storm strengthening.

"TRMM has flown over 100 tropical cyclones since its launch in November of 1997," said Kummerow. "This enormously enhances our database of cloud structures within tropical storms during their growth and decay phases. It also greatly improves the more restricted observations we have obtained from aircraft radar and allows for the systematic study of this hurricane behavior which appears to precede their intensification."

As the height of the hurricane season approaches, TRMM

scientists are looking forward to the continuing analysis of Atlantic hurricanes.

TRMM was launched November 27, 1997, from the Japanese Space Center, Tanegashima, Japan, and is a joint United States and Japanese mission, the first dedicated to measuring tropical and subtropical rainfall through microwave and visible infrared sensors, including the first spaceborne rain radar.

The TRMM spacecraft fills an enormous void in the ability to measure world-wide precipitation because so little of the planet is covered by ground-based radars. Presently, only two percent of the area covered by TRMM is covered by ground-based radars or surface rain gauges. By studying rainfall regionally and globally, and the difference in ocean and land-based storms, TRMM is providing scientists the most detailed information to date on the processes of these powerful storms, leading to new insights on how they affect global climate patterns.

The TRMM mission is part of NASA's Earth Science Enterprise, a long-term, coordinated research effort to study the total Earth system and the effects of natural and human-induced changes on the global environment.

More information about the TRMM project is available at: <http://trmm.gsfc.nasa.gov> □

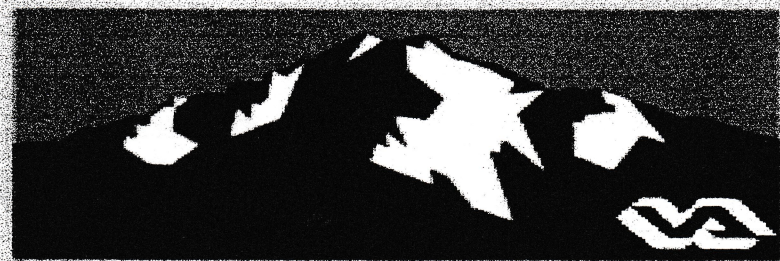


Your  
Picture  
Here

Have you done something extraordinary in the community; have you been promoted to a spotlight position; are you a 4.0 student; have you survived an unsurvivable accident; or do you just want to be noticed? If so, your picture and biography should appear in the MSC Spotlight. If you feel you should be in the spotlight email

[pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:pskjs@uaa.alaska.edu). or call Kurt @ 745-7978 to set an interview □





## VA Facilities - Where to go for help.

VA has toll-free numbers for the convenience of veterans and dependants. To assure that accurate information and courteous responses are given to the public, VA supervisors occasionally monitor telephone calls. Toll-free telephone services include:

- Va Benefits 1-800-827-1000.
- Life Insurance 1-800-669-8477.
- Debt Management Center 1-800-827-0648
- Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) 1-800-829-4833.
- CHAMPVA 1-800-733-8387.
- Headstones and Markers 1-800-697-6947.
- National Mammography Helpline 1-888-492-7844.
- Persian Gulf Hotline 1-800-PGW-VETS.
- Persian Gulf TDD 1-800-829-4833.
- VAONLINE Bulletin Board Service - 'telnet://vaonline.va.gov' or via data line 1-800-US1-VETS up to 28.8KBPS at 8-N-1 modem setting.
- VA World Wide Web Home Page Server - 'http://www.va.gov'

## Alaska VA Facilities:

### Clinics:

- Anchorage Outpatient Clinic and Regional Office 99508-2989  
2925 DeBarr Rd., 907-257-4700 or 1-800-827-1000.
- Fort Wainwright 99703  
Bassett Army Community Hospital, Rm. 262, 907-363-5122.

### Regional Office:

- Anchorage 99508-2989  
2925 DeBarr Rd., 907-257-4700 or 1-800-827-1000.

### Benefits Office:

- Juneau 99802  
709 W. 9th st., #263, 907-586-7472.

### Vet Centers:

- Anchorage 99508  
4201 Tudor Centre Dr., Suite 115, 907-563-6966.
- Fairbanks 99701  
529 5th Ave., Suite 102, 907-456-4238.
- Kenai 99611  
445 Coral St., 907-283-5205.
- Wasilla 99654  
851 E. Westpoint Ave., Suite 109, 907-373-4318.

### National Cemeteries:

- Fort Richardson 99505  
P.O. Box 5-498, Bldg. 997 Davis Highway, 907-384-7075.
- Sitka 99835  
P.O. Box 1065: for information, call Ft. Richardson, AK.

### Matanuska-Susitna College VA Student Services:

- 907-745-9762.

## Main Street Crossing

### Gifts, Antiques & Collectibles

*Kris, Elizabeth & Debby invite  
you to browse among our delightful  
treasures - come - and  
indulge yourself.*

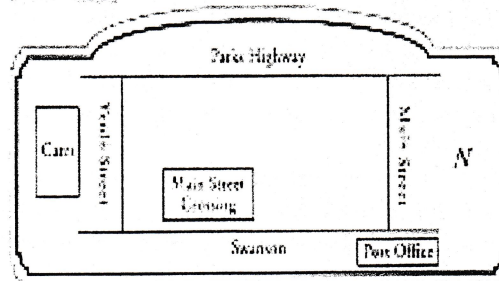


- ☞ Antiques
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*11:00 am - 6:00 pm  
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Wasilla, AK 99654  
357-Main(6246)





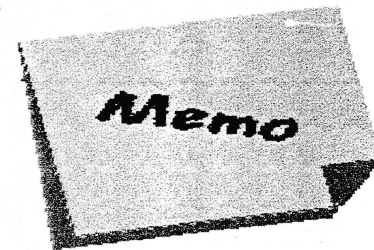
# A Note from Student Services

## Back in Control!!

Ever felt like life is out of control? Forget when things are due and where you are supposed to be when? Way too much to do and much too little time with which to make it happen? Having a hard time juggling work, family, classes, test, homework, and the few social activities you can manage to squeeze into the few minutes of time not already claimed by other activities? Student Services may have something to help you solve your problems!

Through the generous sponsorship of the Matanuska Valley Federal Credit Union and the Matanuska-Susitna College Tech Prep Program, we are pleased to provide an academic planning agenda to all students who seek academic advising. These collegiate academic planners are designed to allow weekly and monthly overviews and promote organization, time management and study skills. Many of our students have found the planners very useful in helping to juggle the many activities involved in their every day lives: family, school and other obligations. Some students are wondering what they ever did without these handy organizers.

If you consulted with an academic advisor concerning your schedule before these planners were available and have not received your complimentary copy yet, stop by Student Services and see academic advisor. He/she will make sure you get one. If you have not visited with an advisor regarding your classes or program plan, stop by FSM 102 and see one. Make sure to ask for the planner before you leave. It will help you in every day juggling of responsibilities and let you see where you have been and where you are going. You will wonder how you ever managed life without it!



## Avoid the Rush! Look Ahead!

It seems like classes just started and already September is gone. In just a couple of weeks, the Matanuska-Susitna College Spring 1999 Semester Schedules will be available. Students will begin busily perusing its pages, looking for the classes that they need or want to take. This might also be a good time to make an appointment with an academic advisor to plan your spring schedule. Going over your schedule with an advisor will help put you on the fast track in your degree program and eliminate unnecessary credits and time. Also, if you have not yet received your 1998-1999 academic planner, this would be a great opportunity to receive one! Avoid the end of semester rush and come see an advisor soon!

*University of Alaska Anchorage  
NEWS*

## Mobile Mammograms at UAA Oct. 22

*September 21, 1998 news release from University Advancement.*

On Thursday, October 22, 1998 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Mobile Mammography unit from Providence Imaging Center will be onsite to screen women 35 and older for breast cancer. The brief, 15-minute screening will take place in Campus Center, Room # 105.

Mammography is the diagnostic tool for early detection of breast cancer, a disease that will strike one out of seven women during their lifetime. Early detection is the best assurance for survival of this deadly disease. The American Cancer Society and National Cancer Institute recommends annual mammography screening for women 40 years of age and older.

Dyann Bowland is the onsite coordinator at UAA. She will schedule your 15-minute appointment, should you be interested. The screening is \$85. Providence will bill your insurance first, and you will receive a bill for the balance not covered if applicable.

Contact Providence Imaging Center at 261-3151 if you have any questions□

# Shots of Flavor

## Drive Thru Convenience

*located behind ebony and Ivory  
Corner of Parks HWY and Main Street*

*Daily Business Hours*

*M - F 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*

*Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*

*Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*